

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AS-01 /019 W

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R 201005Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7808

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FOR NEA/PAB

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJ: MESSAGE FROM AMERICAN EXPRESS

1. ALL COMMERCIAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS (TELEX, PHONE, CABLES) BETWEEN BANGLADESH AND OUTSIDE WORLD REMAIN BLOCKED AS OF NOON, AUGUST 20 WITH EXCEPTION CENSORED PRESS CABLES, DESPITE ANNOUNCEMENT TO CONTRARY. IN THIS SITUATION WE HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT MORE THAN USUALLY WILLING TO ACCEPT INTERESTED PARTY CABLES FROM US FIRMS AND CITIZENS HERE. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE, FROM FINLEY MOODIE OF AMERICAN EXPRESS (WHO HAS BEEN MOST HELPFUL HERE) DESERVES, HOWEVER, MORE THAN ROUTINE HANDLING. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PASSING THIS ON TO THE ADDRESSEE IN WHATEVER WAY YOU THINK BEST WITH ADMONITION THAT ITS CONTENTS BE CLOSELY HELD.

2. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO:

AMERICAN EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION

65 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 10006

(WQW) 797-3131

CABLE: PRESTAMEX

ATTENTION: BEAM

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL 15 AUGUST COUP KILLING MUJIB AND HIS FAMILY AND OVERTHROWING GOVERNMENT WAS COMPLETE AND TOTAL SURPRISE UNFORECAST AND UNANTICIPATED BY ALL OBSERVERS. DIFFICULT TO ASSESS CONSEQUENCES RIGHT NOW. HOWEVER, AT THIS STAGE, FOLLOWING UNSUBSTANTIATED POINTS SEEM TO HAVE EMERGED AAA JUNIOR OFFICERS

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COUP LED BY ABOUT EIGHT OFFICERS AND 350 ARTILLERY AND ARMoured

TROOPS WITH MAJORITY OF ARMY UNINVOLVED BBB COUP SEEMS PRO RIGHT
AND PRO ISLAMIC CCC COUP IS NOT BASICALLY POPULAR WITH PEOPLE
DESPITE GOVERNMENT ASSERTIONS TO CONTRARY AND NEW PRESIDENT
HEADS GOVERNMENT BASICALLY COMPRISING SAME MINISTERS AS BEFORE
SO WE CAN EXPECT IDENTICAL LEVEL OF INEFFICIENCY AND CORRUPTION
DDD DANGER IS POSSIBILITY COUNTER COUP AND GOVERNMENT MAKING
STRENOUS MEASURES TO PLACATE MAIN ARMY UNITS AND SENIOR OFFICERS.
IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW ANYTHING COULD MOUNTED RIGHT NOW AS
ARMOURED TROOPS RETAIN ALL TANK WEAPONRY AND HAVE NOT RETURNED
TO BARRACK WHICH REVEALS GOVERNMENT'S UNCERTAINTY.
PRESENT FEELING BASED ON AVILABLE INFORMATION IS FURTHER COUP
COULD OCCUR AT SOME INDETERMINATE FUTURE DATE VIEW DIVIDED ARMY
AND ERODED DISCIPLINE. BUSINESS CONTINUES FARLY NORMALLY AND
CABLE COMMUNICATION RESTORED FOR COMMERCIAL MESSAGE ALTHOUGH
THERE MAY BE DELAYS AND POSSIBLY CENSORSHIP OF MAIL FOR A WEEK
OR TWO. WEI WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED OF ANY DEVLOPMENTS OF INTEREST
BUT SO FAR AS OUR OPERATION HERE ARE CONCERNED WE PLAN TO ADVISE
RETURN TO NEAR NORALCY. I APPRECIATED YOUR MESSAGE REGARDING
EXIT BUT FORTUNATELY THIS WAS UNNCESSARY. REGARDS MOODIE -
EXPRESS BANK DACCA.
BOSTER

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